

**RIO DELL CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009
MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Rio Dell City Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor Woodall.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Woodall, Councilmembers Marks, and Thompson

Absent: Councilmember Barsanti and Dunker

Others Present: Interim City Manager Hill, Acting Director of Public Works Jensen, and City Clerk Dunham

Absent: Finance Director Beauchaine

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Proclamation in Honor of the 2009 North Coast Stand Down

Mayor Woodall read the Proclamation recognizing the 2009 North Coast Stand Down committee and volunteers for their efforts to address the needs of veterans on the North Coast and encouraging all North Coast veterans in need of services to attend the Stand Down. No representative was in attendance to receive the proclamation.

Proclamation Declaring September 17-23 as Constitution Week

Mayor Woodall read the Proclamation recognizing September 17-23, 2009 as Constitution Week encouraging patriotic citizenship in the City of Rio Dell. Flo Lane was present to receive the proclamation.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion was made by Marks/Thompson to approve the consent calendar including the check register including the General Check Register for check numbers 27600-27631 totaling \$48,377.72 and the Payroll Check Register for check numbers 14850-14870 totaling \$24,413.64. Motion carried 3-0.

ORDINANCES/SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

Approve Resolution No. 1058-2009 Conditionally Accepting A Right of Way Dedication
Assessor Parcel Numbers 205-111-021 and 205-111-019

Interim City Manager Hill recommended this item be pulled from the agenda pending further staff review.

SPECIAL CALL ITEMS

Approve Pay Request No. 2 for Wendt Construction for the Safe Routes to School Improvement Project

Acting Director of Public Works Jensen reported construction of the project was progressing according to schedule and that the contractor was currently working on the replacement of two existing concrete access walkways in connection with one of the four addendums issued to date.

Councilmember Marks stated she had walked the area and thought it looked great and asked if the sidewalks by the tennis courts were ADA compliant; Jensen stated they were ADA compliant and the plans included some bulb-outs and additional lighting.

Motion was made by Thompson/Marks to approve Pay Request No. 2 to Wendt Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$124,893.59 for work related to the Safe Routes to School Improvement Project. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

John Lane, 1249 Riverside Dr., congratulated the City and especially Carla Ralston for coordination of the hazardous waste collection event and said residents were given the opportunity to get rid of household hazardous waste for the bargain price of \$5.00; he said he would like to see the event continue for years to come.

Bud Leonard, 300 Woodland Dr. stated he had attended the County Board of Supervisors meeting today and reported they approved a contract for consultant services for an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact analysis for the Shell Wind Energy – Bear River Ridge Project stating the installation of these transmission lines through Rio Dell will bring in business and help to boost the economy of our community. Interim City Manager Hill noted that city staff would also be meeting with representatives for the project later in the week.

Carol (last name unknown), 995 Riverside Dr., said she had made several attempts to watch the city council meetings on television and all she could hear was muffled voices and wondered if something could be done to improve the sound, suggesting everyone speak up and annunciate.

She also commented that she was content with the passage of the wastewater rate increase but on the behalf of some of the residents living in the Riverside Estates had some questions. She asked how long the 3% annual increase on utility bills would be in effect and if it would be reviewed again in 2011; and asked how the rates would affect seniors on a fixed income without a social security increase and with rising health care costs. She also said she was grateful for living in such a lovely city and also for having the opportunity to work with the police department on the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Marcia Tritton, 114 Meadowbridge Dr., commented that the new sidewalks improvements near the school looked great but was concerned about the wrecked travel trailer parked across from 110 Davis St. stating it was a hazard.

Chief of Police Hill said he was working closely with the owner who was having trouble with the insurance company responsible for the damages and indicated the problem should be resolved within a week.

Al Petrovich, 1231 Eeloa Ave. addressed the council regarding Constitution Week and said that often times cities hold special events to celebrate the occasion and asked when the last time was the City of Rio Dell had such an event and if there were any future plans for one in the future; Flo Lane commented that in the City of Fortuna there are presentations made at schools, posters, exhibits, proclamations, and that the 7th and 8th grade students from Bridgeville School had come and given a performance to one of the organizations she belonged to; she suggested discussion begin with the school if there was interest in any kind of participation. Al said it would be a great time to get the community together and suggested perhaps a barbeque be organized at the Fireman's Park in the future in celebration of Constitution Week. He then handed out pocket handbooks on the Constitution.

REPORTS/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Interim City Manager Hill reported on recent meetings and activities and stated the Request for Proposals (RFP's) on the Brownfield Grant were completed and sent to Dave Hodges at EPA for review; provided a report on nuisance abatement activities stating 12 cases were opened, 8 of which were closed with owner compliance; worked with public works on two pretty significant river bar clean-up projects caused by illegal dumping stating he would be working toward restitution to recover costs; and said he was still working on the details for the installation of the new security gate at the wastewater treatment plant.

Acting Director of Public Works Jensen reported on recent activities in the public works department and reported that 155 vehicles participated in the Hazardous Waste Clean-up Day; two of the Pine trees at the Davis St. Park would be removed and the school had agreed to contribute to the cost of removal; 12 sets of plans for the Wastewater Improvement Project were mailed out; the hauling of sludge to the Dinsmore Plateau was going well; had replaced some failed components at the wastewater treatment plant; and repaired a 6' water main.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Marks commented on a check on the check register for towing and repair on a police vehicle and asked if vehicle maintenance logs were being maintained; Chief Hill stated the vehicle was towed because the "check engine light" came on and in the past had actually had a engine blow up from driving it too far after the light came on.

Acting Director of Public Works Jensen indicated that vehicle maintenance logs are kept on all public works vehicles and equipment.

Councilmember Marks then stated that the cell phone policy was scheduled to come back to the Council for review six months after its adoption and requested that that item be placed on the next agenda.

Councilmember Thompson stated that he attended a meeting of the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) on September 9th and they discussed the subject of the conversion of gas motors to electric and said there were plans to have two charging stations located in Eureka. He also reported they held a joint meeting with the County of Humboldt on September 11th regarding energy grants under the Stimulus Package stating our grant proposal is still on track but we would need to sit down with RCEA and discuss our proposed project further.

Councilmember Marks reported she had attended a meeting of the Humboldt Waste Management Authority and they had discussed the idea of a food digester; attended a Traffic Committee meeting and discussed the Trails Project and the Wildwood Ave. Paving Project; had the first Planning Review Committee meeting today; and said she attended the Chamber of Commerce luncheon today where they discussed ways to revitalize the downtown.

ANNOUNCEMENT IN OPEN SESSION OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Anticipated Litigation –Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b): 2 potential cases

At 7:15 P.M. Mayor Woodall then announced the Council would be adjourning into Closed Session to discuss: *Anticipated Litigation – significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b): 2 potential cases*, and asked for any public comment regarding the closed session. There were no comments received.

The meeting reconvened at 8:30 P.M. and Mayor Woodall announced there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:32 P.M. to the October 6, 2009 Regular Meeting.

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Julie Woodall, Mayor

Attest:

Karen Dunham, City Clerk